

We claim:

1. A method of collecting a strand, the method comprising the steps of:  
texturizing the strand;  
directing the texturized strand into a container having an interior region to form a mass of collected strand; and  
establishing a pressure differential between the interior region of the container and a region external of the container, wherein the pressure differential maintains the strand in a texturized form.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of texturizing the strand includes feeding compressed air and the strand into the nozzle and expanding the strand with the nozzle.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of texturizing the strand includes twisting the strand into a coiled shape.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein said strand has the coiled shape substantially along its length when the strand is in the container.
5. The method of claim 3, wherein said step of establishing a pressure differential includes maintaining the coiled shape of the strand after the strand has been collected in the container.
6. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of texturizing includes texturizing the strand with the nozzle and said step of directing the texturized strand includes directing the texturized strand into the container with the nozzle.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of texturizing the strand includes imparting to the strand a velocity in a first direction and said step of directing the texturized strand includes deflecting the strand off a first surface disposed at an angle to said first direction to change the direction of travel of the strand as it is directed into the container.

5 8. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a pressure differential includes fluidically coupling the interior region of the container and the external region so that an air flow is created between the interior region and the external region.

10 9. A system for texturizing a strand comprising:  
a container for collecting the strand, the container having an interior region;  
means for establishing a pressure differential between said interior region and a region external of said container; and  
a texturizer for texturizing the strand and directing the strand into said container, wherein the strand is maintained in a texturized form by the pressure differential as it is collected in said container.

15 10. The system of claim 9, wherein said means for establishing a pressure differential includes a screen through which air flows to establish an air flow between said interior region and the external region.

20 11. The system of claim 10, wherein said container includes a bottom surface having an opening, and said container is placed on said screen so that said opening fluidically couples said interior region and the external region.

25 12. The system of claim 9, wherein said texturizer is a nozzle and compressed air and strand are supplied to said nozzle which utilizes the compressed air to expand the strand into its texturized form.

30 13. The system of claim 12, wherein said nozzle expands said strand into a coiled shape.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein said strand has the coiled shape substantially along its length and said pressure differential maintains the strand in its coiled shape after the strand has been collected in said container.

15. A package of texturized strand comprising:  
a container having a removable closure; and  
a strand disposed in said container in a texturized, coiled form, wherein  
said strand can be withdrawn from said container when said closure is removed.

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16. The package of claim 15, wherein said strand has the coiled form  
substantially along its length in said container.

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17. The package of claim 16, wherein said strand is disposed in said container  
in a series of layers.

18. The package of claim 15, wherein said container is a corrugated box.

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